

PLANNING TO END STRIKES.

Object of New Civic Federation Committee.

SENATOR HANNA NAMED CHAIRMAN.

Secret Session of Two Hours Held in New York City—The Preventing and Arbitrating of Labor Troubles and Difficulties to Be a Special Work—Officers Elected.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—With many expressions of good will and hope that much of advantage to capital and labor had been accomplished, the industrial department of the National Civic Federation adjourned this afternoon, to meet again in the last week in January.

The Civic Federation convention proper adjourned at the close of its session on Tuesday, the meeting today being that of the committee of thirty-six appointed by the chairman, Oscar S. Strauss, on Tuesday to devise some means whereby the relations between capital and labor may be improved and strikes averted or settled.

Hanna Chosen Chairman.

Of this committee Senator Marcus A. Hanna was chosen chairman and presided today. About fifteen of the committee members were present. The session was secret, lasting about two hours, and at its close all who were present said that the utmost harmony had marked the discussions, and notwithstanding the rather vague nature of the plans outlined all were hopeful of practical results. The debate was entirely informal, and at its close the following was adopted:

To Aid Industrial Peace.

"The scope and province of this department shall be to do what may seem best to promote industrial peace; to be helpful in establishing right relations between employers and workers; by its good offices to endeavor to obviate and prevent strikes and lockouts; to aid in renewing industrial relations where a rupture has occurred.

"That at all times representatives of employers and workers, organized or unorganized, shall confer for the adjustment of differences or disputes before an acute stage is reached, and thus avoid or minimize the number of strikes or lockouts.

To Foster Agreements.

"That mutual agreements as to conditions under which labor shall be performed should be encouraged, and that when agreements are made the terms thereof should be faithfully adhered to, both in letter and spirit, by both parties.

"This department, either as a whole, or a sub-committee if it appointed, shall, when requested, act as a forum to adjust and decide upon questions at issue between workers and their employers provided in its opinion the subject is one of sufficient importance.

"This department shall not consider abstract industrial problems.

"This department assumes no powers of arbitration unless such powers be conferred by both parties to a dispute.

"This department shall adopt a set of by-laws for its government."

The Officers Elected.

Officers were elected and committees were appointed as follows:

Executive Committee—Chairman, Senator Hanna; First Vice Chairman, Samuel Gompers; Second Vice Chairman, Oscar S. Strauss; Treasurer, Charles A. Moore, and Secretary, Ralph M. Easley.

Committee on By-Laws—Oscar S. Strauss, S. R. Callaway, James H. Ecken, John J. McCook, Samuel Gompers, and Henry White.

MR. CLEVELAND UNDECIDED.

May Not Serve on the Civic Federation Committee.

PRINCETON, N. J., Dec. 18.—Grover Cleveland is not ready to announce whether or not he will serve on the labor arbitration committee of thirty-six.

When questioned at his home here this afternoon he said he had not accepted yet. He refused to say what would be his probable action in the matter.

Mr. Cleveland is still suffering from the effects of his recent attack of pneumonia and is confined to his home. This circumstance, it is thought, may have influenced him to delay the acceptance of the invitation.

BOERS UNWILLING TO FIGHT.

Reported to Be Concentrating Fifty Miles From Kroonstad.

BLOEMFONTEIN, Dec. 18.—Boers are concentrating at a point fifty miles from Kroonstad, but they show little desire to fight.

Colonial Intelligence Officer Brady, who was convicted of selling Government horses, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment at hard labor.

The columns which have been operating in the southern corner of the Orange Colony for the last three weeks report that the Boers have been cleared out of that section of the country.

Commandant Krutinger and a party of Boers attempted to cross the line between Debaar and Nampop, a couple of miles ago.

Krutinger was wounded by the fire from the blockhouses, and was captured. He is now in the hospital at Hanover Road. Five others of the party were also captured.

PRO-BOER MEETING STONED.

David Lloyd-George's Reception in a Chamberlain Stronghold.

LODGES BLAMED FOR CIVIL WAR.

Ministers Declare That Secret Orders Incite Anarchy.

BOSTON, Dec. 18.—Yesterday and today speakers at the Convention of the New England Christian Association have denounced all secret societies, especially Masons and Odd Fellows, as unchristian and dangerous organizations. The Rev. James P. Stoddard today declared that they are the root of all anarchy and all unchristianity.

His subject was "Incipient Stages of Anarchy." "Among young people," he declared, "societies have been organized to parents and break up homes; among industrial classes they engender jealousies and spite; in the church they cause hypocrisy and dishonesty to God."

Cause of Civil War.

In the same vein as President Foster last night, Mr. Stoddard explained just how the civil war was hatched up in lodge rooms. On the authority of a gentleman still alive "whose word is unimpeachable," he told what a friend of his told him. It was this: "That a junta of seven secret order men, of whom Jefferson Davis was the leader, started in the early '50s to cause the war. They elected Franklin Pierce to the Presidency, and guided sentiment in the North and South."

"These societies are the vile and murderous system which we condemn under the name of anarchy," said he. "They are schools of crime. They teach in their incipient stages the same principles which actuate the murderers of Presidents and Kings."

A Rap at Seth Low.

Last evening the Rev. J. M. Foster, president of the association, denounced the Masons and other secret order men. He then touched upon the recent election in New York.

"Seth Low agreed to break the Ten Commandments," said he. "If his party would elect him, another victory like this will prove the ruin of the reform party in New York. Mayor Low has killed the watch-dogs of the Sabbath day."

The Rev. Mr. Stoddard, of Washington, spoke on "Wherein Lies the Power of the Secret Order and How May It Be Overcome?"

MAY WITHDRAW FROM ELECTIONS.

MASO'S FOLLOWERS CRY FRAUD.

Dead Men on Lists of Those From Whom Candidates Must Be Chosen—Other Allegations of Unfairness.

HAVANA, Dec. 18.—The supporters of General Maso talk of withdrawing from the elections. They say that unless the conditions are changed any pretence of fairness is out of the question. They have presented a statement to General Wood regarding what they say occurred in Havana.

Their statement alleges that out of a list of 240 of the heaviest taxpayers, made by the Ayuntamiento, from among whom the parties must select candidates for senatorial elections, twenty-five are dead and eighty are foreigners, including French, Italians, Germans, and inscribed Spaniards.

Wealthy Cubans Omitted.

A number of the most prominent and wealthy Cubans, whose names are given, who favor Estrada Palma to enable his supporters to get good candidates for senatorial elections.

Palma's Followers Favored.

The Masos claim that the lists contain a sufficient number of reliable men who favor Estrada Palma to enable his supporters to get good candidates for senatorial elections.

TO CHANGE LAWS OF PORTO RICO.

ACTION FROM IGLESIAS CASE.

Convention of Labor Leader Calls Attention to Needed Alterations in the Insular Statutes.

SAN JUAN, P. R., Dec. 18.—Acting Governor Hartzell has sent a letter to Attorney General Harlan, of Porto Rico, calling his attention to the conviction, under the Spanish law, of Santiago Iglesias on the charge of conspiracy.

Tried Under Spanish Law.

Iglesias started a federation of labor here and was arrested under the old Spanish statute which makes it a felony to conspire to raise the price of labor. Iglesias was tried and convicted under this law and sentenced to three years and four months' imprisonment.

The acting governor asks the attorney general to advise the insular government at the earliest possible moment of the exact character and scope of this law in order that proper remedies and amendments may be enacted by the Legislature at its coming session to prevent injustice being done.

Should Be Decided Quickly.

The acting governor says furthermore that the pending appeal to the Supreme Court should be determined speedily, so as to establish the existence or non-existence and scope of the law under which Iglesias was convicted, in order that the Legislature may take any action that may be necessary before it adjourns.

The repeal of the Spanish laws which restrict organized labor and make it a crime to endeavor to secure an advance in the price of labor, which are still in force in Porto Rico, is being made an object by leaders of organized labor in this country.

E. A. M. Lawson, President of the Typographical Union of this city, submitted to the President yesterday a resolution, adopted at the last meeting of the organization, calling upon Congress to repeal the objectionable laws.

The release of Santiago Iglesias, representative of the American Federation of Labor, who was arrested under those laws and sentenced to imprisonment a short time ago, was also asked.

Flynn's Business College, 8th and K.

Business, Shorthand, Typewriting—\$25 a year.

KERENS MAY STILL CONTROL.

President Makes Compromise Nominations.

PAYNE A FRIEND OF MISSOURIAN

Prospective Postmaster General May Keep the Colonel on Top in His State—Governor Otero's Renomination a Surprise—To Be Held Up Until After the Holidays.

The action of President Roosevelt yesterday in making compromise appointments to two important Federal positions in St. Louis, which have been the bone of contention in the Kerens-Hitchcock fight for political recognition, has caused widespread comment. In certain quarters it is said that the end is not yet, and that the last act of the fierce factional fight will not be played for a few months at least.

It is said that the President will not turn down Col. C. Kerens, National Committeeman from Missouri, although it was generally considered a blow to him when C. F. Gallenkamp was named surveyor of the port, and C. F. Wencker collector of internal revenue at St. Louis yesterday, in place of C. H. Smith and H. C. Grenner, both Kerens men.

Payne a Friend of Kerens.

Colonel Kerens now has a powerful friend at court in the person of Henry C. Payne. Mr. Payne, when he was in Washington several weeks ago, discussed the Missouri situation with the President, and it is said united with Senator Elkins of West Virginia in asking the President to recognize Colonel Kerens.

It is believed that Secretary Hitchcock will retire from the Cabinet before many months. When he does, it is said that the President will appoint Colonel Kerens to fill the position of collector of internal revenue at St. Louis, although his power will probably be limited, inasmuch as the Republican Congressmen will be allowed to displace patronage in their own districts.

Secretary Hitchcock's Interest.

Secretary Hitchcock is in the light now because his political friend, T. J. Akins, chairman of the Republican State Committee, is a bitter political enemy of Kerens. A decision directly for Kerens would have been a slap at Secretary Hitchcock and would probably have resulted in his immediate withdrawal from the Cabinet.

Representatives Joy and Barthold, the latter of whom is on very friendly terms with the President, were a strong team for the Hitchcock faction. They valorized W. G. Boyd for the position of surveyor, but the President was not disposed to give the Hitchcock people all they asked. Some time ago Wencker was suggested for the position of surveyor, but it proved he was unsatisfactory to the Hitchcock faction because he was too friendly with Kerens, and the Kerens faction was eager to have him appointed when they saw that they could not win for their own candidate.

Reappointment of Gov. Otero.

Another surprise yesterday was caused by the President sending to the Senate his recommendation of Gov. M. A. Otero, of New Mexico. It was learned last night that the Senate decided to let the nomination go over until after the holiday recess in order that the Committee on Territories could make an investigation of the charges that have been filed against him.

Mr. J. F. Manning, Secretary of the Republican Reform League of New Mexico, said at the Elkhart House last night that Governor Otero had been endorsed by the church and the majority of the business men of the Territory.

Judge Crumacker Loses.

Additional New Mexican nominations sent to the Senate yesterday were of Frederick Muller, a former Rough Rider, as receiver of public moneys at Santa Fe, and Benjamin S. Baker, of Omaha, Neb., as associate justice of the Supreme Court of New Mexico.

Baker will succeed Judge J. W. Crumacker on the Supreme bench. Judge Crumacker is a cousin of Representative Crumacker of Indiana, and the latter is said to be greatly vexed by the President's refusal to reappoint his kinsman.

Other appointments sent to the Senate yesterday were:

Treasurer—William P. Williams, of Illinois, to be Assistant Treasurer of the United States at Chicago.

William Penn Nixon, of Illinois, to be collector of customs for the district of Chicago.

Alabama's List.

Justice William Vaughan, of Alabama, to be United States Attorney for the Northern district of Alabama.

Daniel N. Cooper, of Alabama, to be United States marshal for the Northern district of Alabama.

Leander J. Bryan, of Alabama, to be United States marshal for the Middle district of Alabama.

W. J. Robinson, of Hawaii, to be third judge of the Circuit Court of the First circuit of the Territory of Hawaii.

Robert W. Breckons, of Wyoming, to be United States Attorney for the Territory of Hawaii.

Mack A. Montgomery, of Mississippi, to be United States Attorney for the Northern district of Mississippi.

Interior—Charles A. Orr, of New York, to be pension agent at Buffalo, N. Y.

Levi B. Davis, of Wyoming, to be receiver of public moneys at Sundance, Wyo.

Jonathan Merriam, of Illinois, to be pension agent at Chicago, Ill.

NEW B. & O. EQUIPMENT.

Contracts Aggregating \$7,000,000 Let by the Company.

BALTIMORE, Dec. 18.—The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company today announced equipment contracts to purchase \$7,000,000 of motive power and rolling stock. The following orders have been placed:

The American Locomotive Company, for forty-eight consolidation locomotives, single cylinders, weight 133,000 pounds; the Baldwin Locomotive Works, of Philadelphia, two switching engines, weight 106,000 pounds; the Harlan & Hollingsworth Company, of Wilmington, twenty-five passenger cars and one combined passenger and baggage car; the Pullman Company, eleven sixty-foot baggage cars and one sixty-foot baggage and mail car; the Pressed Steel Car Company, of Pittsburgh, 3,000 steel hopper cars of 100,000 pounds capacity; the American Car & Foundry Company, 1,300 box cars of 100,000 pounds capacity, with steel underframes; and 700 forty-foot flat cars, 100,000 pounds capacity, with steel underframing.

AMERICA'S COURSE CLEAR.

Venezuelan-German Debts and Collections None of Our Business.

With reference to the Berlin despatch to a Paris newspaper that Germany is to make a naval demonstration against Venezuela, it is said here that Herr von Holleben, the German Ambassador, has made some unofficial enquiries, the answers to which have, of course, been communicated to his Government, in regard to whether the United States would be offended should German warships be sent to Venezuelan waters to collect debts long overdue.

While no assurances have been given that this country will not interfere in the execution of Germany's purpose, it is understood that as Germany and Venezuela are sovereign nations, this Government will take no part in the trouble unless there be danger of a violation of the Monroe Doctrine.

PARIS, Dec. 18.—A despatch from Berlin says Emperor William has become weary of the delays in the settlement of the trouble between Germany and Venezuela, and has resolved to make a naval demonstration in the waters of the latter country.

In order to avoid offending American susceptibilities in regard to the Monroe Doctrine he has ordered the proper authorities to represent to the Washington Government that any handling of German debts in Venezuela will be purely a temporary affair.

CHEATHAM HANDS IN RESIGNATION.

RECORDED OF DEEDS GIVES UP.

Decides Not to Notice the Charges Against Him Filed With the President—Many Colored Candidates.

Henry P. Cheatham, colored, Recorder of Deeds of the District of Columbia, resigned yesterday, prompted, it is stated, by the recent announcement that the President would not reappoint him at the expiration of his present term. Mr. Cheatham will retire from the office as soon as the nomination of his successor is confirmed.

The President's decision not to reappoint Mr. Cheatham, it is asserted, was caused by charges filed against the recorder. The charges were brought forward at the instance of Henry H. Arnett, son of Bishop Arnett, of Ohio, a prominent colored man of Washington, who resigned from a position in the Recorder's office because of the charges.

The charges were made public. It has been said that the President decided to let the matter rest. He intended to me an answer to the charges.

The first intimation of Cheatham's giving up the fight was made when Senator Pritchard of North Carolina, who has supported Cheatham, a native of that State, said that the fight waged by Bishop Arnett and his son, called at the White House and recommended that J. C. Daney, of Wilmington, N. C., be appointed to succeed Cheatham. No successor has been, it is understood, yet decided upon.

Mr. Cheatham last night admitted that he had submitted his resignation. He tendered it early yesterday morning, he said, and after a short stay at the White House he was appointed. He declared he had paid no attention to the charges, because he deemed them of no importance, feeling that there was nothing in his conduct which could be used against him.

When the Fight Began.

The fight against Cheatham began about a month ago. The issue soon after young Arnett resigned. It was then stated at the White House by persons who had seen the President on the subject that Mr. Roosevelt was satisfied with Cheatham and would reappoint him.

Now that Cheatham is practically out there is a lively fight among the various candidates. Segregation in the District of Columbia is anxious that the position of Recorder of Deeds be made one to be filled only by an appointment of a resident of the District of Columbia. On the other hand, many Representatives and Senators, especially from the South, have colored constituents eager for the job, which carries a fat salary.

Although the position has for many years been held by a colored man, there is a certain sentiment that a change might now be advantageously made. Such change, however, is hardly likely to meet with favor.

Many Candidates.

There will be any number of local candidates for the place, and a number of prominent colored men in various parts of the country have already filed applications.

COLOMBIA AFTER GUNBOATS.

Vessel to Be Used, It Is Rumored, in Venezuelan War.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—The Government of Colombia sent a special commissioner to this country two weeks ago, whose mission is to purchase arms, and, if possible, one or two equipped warships.

The commissioner, Senor Jose Lamadrid, a prominent resident of Cartagena, has been negotiating with the Government of Santo Domingo for the purchase of the gunboat Independencia, and the assertion is made by the few persons who have knowledge of these movements that Colombia is preparing for a war with Venezuela.

Six hundred thousand dollars is the amount mentioned which Colombia, it is declared, has appropriated for the purpose of avenging the hostile acts committed against that country by President Castro of Venezuela. Two hundred thousand dollars of this is said to be deposited in this city to bind any collectors called into by Senor Lamadrid.

The latter is now at New Orleans so as to be within short distance of Santo Domingo if an agreement is reached with the Dominican Government for the transfer of the Independencia.

Three hundred thousand dollars is asked for the gunboat. She is an iron-clad, 120 feet long, and carries one 5-inch gun, two 2-pounders, three 1-pounders, and four rapid-fire guns.

It is reported that an effort was made by Colombia to secure one of the United States auxiliary cruisers, but that it failed, and that Brazil, being approached, declined to negotiate with Colombia. Senor Lamadrid has his eye on several merchant steamers which, when armed, would serve the purpose.

Norfolk & Washington Steamboat Co.

Belmont, Va. City day at 6:30 p. m. via 7th st. to Old Point Comfort, Norfolk, Virginia Beach, and Newport News. See ad. page 2.

PHILIPPINE BILL PASSES.

Carried by a Practically Strict Party Vote.

LIVELY SPEECHES AT THE CLOSE.

Three Minnesota Members of the House Cause the Only Surprise By Voting Against the Measure on Account of the Double Duty—Reference to Cuba.

By a vote of 163 to 123 the House yesterday passed the Philippine tariff bill. The vote was along party lines save for a few exceptions. The Republicans declaring for the measure and the Democrats against it. The exceptions were Littlefield (Me.), McCall (Mass.), Heatwole, Edder, and Stevens (Minn.), all Republicans, voting against the bill, and Davey, Broussard, and Robertson (La.), Democrats, voting for it.

Representatives Ruggert (N. Y.), Griffith (Ind.), Democrats, and Hedg (La.), Republican, were present but did not vote. The last was paired in favor of the bill with Representative Polk (Tenn.), Democrat.

The three Democratic members from Louisiana who voted for the bill did so because of the protection which it affords to the sugar industry of that State. The remaining three members from that State were absent and unpaired.

Opposed Double Duty.

Representatives Littlefield and McCall opposed the bill on constitutional grounds and the three Minnesota members because of the double duty of export and import tax which the bill imposed upon certain articles coming from the islands. Their votes were the only ones which caused any surprise, and while it was known that they objected to the double duty, it was not known until yesterday morning that they would vote against the measure.

Representative Crumacker (Ind.), Republican, who opposed the bill, was absent and not paired.

Motion to Recommit Defeated.

At the close of debate yesterday Mr. Richardson, the minority leader, moved to commit the bill to the Committee on Commerce and Manufactures.

The motion was defeated by a vote of 123 to 172. Messrs. Littlefield and McCall voted against recommitment.

In Committee of the Whole.

The consideration of the tariff bill in committee of the whole, with Mr. Hepburn in the chair, occupied the attention of the House during the entire session, after a small amount of morning business had been disposed of. Mr. Henry (Dem., Miss.), Mr. Hepburn was succeeded in the chair by Mr. Russell of Connecticut, and delivered a sarcastic speech supporting the bill, in which he taunted the Democrats for their inability to suggest legislation upon the subject.

Mr. McCallan yielded a portion of his speech against the bill because of his opposition to the Administration's Philippine policy. Mr. McCallan, in a forceful and scholarly speech, concluded for the minority, by declaring by Representative Dabney who summed up the Republican situation in behalf of the measure.

Mr. Henry in the opening speech of the day declared that the bill was being enacted at the behest of the Sugar Trust. He also attacked the double tax which the bill imposed, and declared in favor of the independence of the Philippines.

The Stepmother Country.

Mr. Williams, who followed, declared that even poor old despotic Spain, when she owned the Philippines, allowed free access between the mother country and the islands. There is no danger, he said, of the United States being called the stepmother country. She will go down in history as the stepmother country, and a hard one at that.

Treatment of the decision of the Supreme Court, he said it was based simply upon considerations of the best policy to be pursued in the control and management of the island possessions. The old inflexible, absolute, oath-bound Constitution is no longer the guide.

In conclusion, he said that so long as the Philippines were a part of the United States they should be treated with fairness, and that no injustice be done to our own people, he advised getting rid of them as soon as possible.

Defended by Mr. Hepburn.

Mr. Hepburn supported the bill. He believed that the principles of the pending bill were right, as they were in line with all legislation which recognized the difference between the government of acquired territory and that of the original States or of States made therewith.

For six years he was a resident of Iowa before it became a State of the Union when it was governed by legislation passed in good old Democratic times. And the measure of self-government granted to the residents of that Territory was infinitely less than that given to the people of the Philippines.

As to Cuban Independence.

Asked by Mr. Shafer (Silverite, Cal.) if he agreed with the recognition of Cuban independence, Mr. Hepburn said:

"The Democrats forced the Administration and the Republican party against their better judgment to do that. Democratic applause! You may applaud, gentlemen, but I tell you that before a decade has passed, you will recognize the wisdom of giving the Cubans full power of government."

Attending to the Democratic attitude, Mr. Hepburn said that 150 Representatives were in their places declaring that the country was approaching the parting of the ways in a most important legislative matter, and yet not one had suggested any plan for dealing with the question. They were silent except in the way of censorious criticism.

Tourists to Florida.

Will find Seaside Air Line Railway superior train service and fast schedule offer magnificent facilities to Florida. Office, 1124 New York Avenue.

Condition of Admiral Sampson Shows No Improvement.

Admiral Sampson is a very weak man, although his physicians, Drs. P. M. Rixey and George Pickrell, have not pronounced his condition alarming.

He has been confined to the house since Sunday, and up to last night he had not manifested any improvement. There appears to be a gradual weakening of the whole system.

When a Times reporter called at the Sampson home last night about 10 o'clock he was told that the admiral was feeling brighter; so much so that he had come downstairs to dinner.

Dr. Rixey's bulletin at midnight was: "The admiral's condition remains unchanged. He is still quite weak."

The greatest care is being exercised to guard the admiral from any sort of interruptions or disturbances that might have a bad effect on him. Numerous letters have been addressed to him criticizing him for his attitude toward Admiral Schley. None of these letters is allowed to reach him, being taken care of by his private secretary.

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VAST CENTRAL BANK TO BE DISCUSSED.

FINANCIERS TO MEET MR. GAGE.

Mr. Vanderbilt Issues Invitations for Dinner at Which the Plan of the Secretary Will Be Gone Over.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—A dinner of more than usual interest is to be given at the Metropolitan Club on Saturday night. Mr. Gage at some time this night as Secretary of the Treasury.

The host of the evening is to be Frank A. Vanderbilt, vice president of the City Bank and for four years Assistant Secretary of the Treasury under Mr. Gage.

Mr. Vanderbilt has invited many prominent bankers of the city, the presidents of trust companies, and the chiefs of other financial institutions to meet the Secretary of the Treasury on this occasion.

To Build Vast Institution.

It was